Inflectional and Derivational Morphemes in Kim Namjoon's Speech for Youth Self-Love

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Abstract

Morphology plays an important role in understanding how words are formed and how meaning changes through the use of morphemes. This study aims to identify the inflectional and derivational morphemes found in Kim Namjoon's speech at the United Nations and to analyse their grammatical functions within the context of the speech. Using a descriptive qualitative approach, the researcher analysed the speech transcript retrieved from UNICEF's official website. This research relied on documentation for data collection and employed Plag's (2003) morphological theory in the analysis process. The findings revealed that inflectional morphemes such as *-s*, *-ed*, and *-ing* were used to indicate number, tense, aspect, and person, ensuring grammatical accuracy and sentence clarity. Meanwhile, derivational morphemes such as *-er*, *-ion*, *-ist*, *-able*, and *-ly* were used to form new words and alter syntactic categories, enabling the speaker to convey abstract concepts and social identities with greater precision. Many of these morphemes appear in key expressions that emphasize self-acceptance, personal identity, and empowerment, thereby reinforcing the core message of youth self-love delivered throughout the speech. This analysis contributes to a deeper understanding of how linguistic elements reinforce the motivational impact of public speeches, particularly in promoting positive messages among youth. Overall, the study concludes that both inflectional and derivational morphemes contribute significantly to the structure, clarity, and grammatical coherence of the speech, highlighting the importance of morphology in effective spoken language use.

Abstrak
Morfologi memiliki peran penting dalam memahami bagaimana kata dibentuk dan bagaimana makna dapat berubah melalui penggunaan morfem. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi morfem infleksional dan derivasional yang terdapat dalam pidato Kim Namjoon di Perserikatan Bangsa-Bangsa serta menganalisis fungsi gramatikalnya dalam konteks pidato tersebut. Dengan

menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif, peneliti menganalisis transkrip pidato yang diambil dari situs resmi UNICEF. Penelitian ini menggunakan dokumentasi sebagai teknik pengumpulan data dan menerapkan teori morfologi dari Plag (2003) dalam proses analisis. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa morfem infleksional seperti *-s*, *-ed*, dan *-ing* digunakan untuk menandai kategori gramatikal seperti jumlah, waktu, aspek, dan orang, sehingga menjaga ketepatan tata bahasa dan kejelasan kalimat. Sementara itu, morfem derivasional seperti *-er*, *-ion*, *-ist*, *-able*, dan *-ly* digunakan untuk membentuk leksem baru dan mengubah kategori sintaksis, yang memungkinkan penutur menyampaikan konsep abstrak dan identitas sosial dengan lebih tepat. Beberapa morfem tersebut muncul dalam ungkapan-ungkapan penting yang menekankan penerimaan diri, identitas pribadi, dan pemberdayaan, sehingga memperkuat pesan utama tentang cinta diri pada generasi muda yang disampaikan dalam pidato tersebut. Analisis ini berkontribusi dalam memberikan pemahaman yang lebih mendalam mengenai bagaimana unsur kebahasaan memperkuat dampak motivasional dari pidato publik, khususnya dalam menyampaikan pesan positif kepada kaum muda. Secara keseluruhan, penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa morfem infleksional dan derivasional memberikan kontribusi yang signifikan terhadap struktur, kejelasan, dan koherensi gramatikal pidato, sekaligus menyoroti pentingnya morfologi dalam penggunaan bahasa lisan yang efektif.

INTRODUCTION

Morphology is a branch of linguistics that focuses on how words are structured internally and how new words are formed. As stated by Haspelmath and Sims (2010), it involves examining the regular patterns that link word forms with their meanings. It refers to the consistent, rule-governed relationship between how a word is formed and how its meaning changes as the form changes. Another explanation was provided by Lieber (2010), which states that morphology is a branch of linguistics that studies the process of word formation, including how new words are created in various languages in the world, as well as how word forms vary depending on their function and use in a sentence. To understand the morphological process, it is important to first recognize the types of morphemes that are the basic units in word formation.

Morphemes are the smallest individually meaningful elements in the utterances of a language (Kroeger, 2005, p. 12). Morphemes are generally classified into two categories: free morphemes and bound morphemes. As explained by Kroeger (2005), free morphemes can stand alone as independent words, whereas bound morphemes cannot appear by themselves and usually need to be attached to other forms. Bound morphemes can be divided into two types: inflectional morphemes and derivational morphemes. Yule (2010) points out that inflectional morphemes do not form new words or alter the word class of the base. Rather, they function to express grammatical details like tense, number, or possession. For example, they help indicate whether a noun is singular or plural, as in *cat* and *cats*. In contrast, derivational morphemes are used to create new words or change the grammatical category of the base word (Yule, 2010, p. 69). The study of morphemes remains a relevant area of linguistic inquiry because of its role in revealing how meaning is systematically encoded in language. Analyzing inflectional and derivational morphemes provides insight into how speakers construct meaning, maintain grammatical coherence, and achieve communicative goals, especially in contexts such as public speeches that require clarity, emphasis, and rhetorical effect.

Previous studies have explored the use of inflectional and derivational morphemes in various types of texts. The earliest investigation was undertaken by Goni et al. (2022), who analysed the types and functions of these morphemes in Barack Obama's Instagram captions. The second study was carried out by Hasanati and Alim (2023), focusing on derivational and inflectional morphemes by examining the affixation processes and identifying the most frequently used types of affixes in a novel. Similarly, a study by Fitria (2020) investigated both types of morphemes and their functions in selected news articles. Another study was conducted by Aryanika et al. (2021), which analysed the frequency and process of derivational and inflectional morphemes found in Joko Widodo's speech. Although previous studies have examined the types and functions of inflectional and derivational morphemes in various texts, such as Instagram captions, novels, news articles, and political speeches, there is still limited research that focuses on

morphological analysis in speeches delivered by cultural figures. This study seeks to fill that gap by analysing Kim Namjoon's speech at the United Nations.

The purpose of this research study is to identify the inflectional and derivational morphemes found in Kim Namjoon's speech at the United Nations and to analyse their grammatical functions within the context of the speech.

METHOD

This study applies a descriptive qualitative approach that involves both the classification of inflectional and derivational morphemes and the contextual analysis of their grammatical functions within the speech. It aims to identify the inflectional and derivational morphemes found in Kim Namjoon's speech at the United Nations and to analyse their grammatical functions. A qualitative approach is considered appropriate because it enables a detailed examination of language components, in this case morphemes, without relying on numerical data. As Creswell (2008) states, qualitative research is a method for exploring and understanding meaning that individuals or groups assign to a social or human issue. In this study, it helps to explore the use of morphemes as meaningful units of language in a real linguistic context. The data for this study was taken from the transcript of Kim Namjoon's publicly available 2018 speech at the United Nations. This speech was selected due to its morphological richness, demonstrated by the frequent and varied use of both inflectional and derivational morphemes. These elements not only fulfil grammatical functions but also enhance the expressive and motivational tone of the speech, making it suitable for morphological analysis in the context of youth identity and self-love. The transcript, obtained from https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/we-have-learned-love-ourselves-so-now-i-urge-you-speak-yourself, served as the main textual data for conducting the morphological analysis, which allowed the researcher to identify the types of morphemes used and examine their grammatical functions in the context of the speech.

The data were collected through a documentation method, which involves using written sources as the primary data. This method is appropriate for linguistic

research that focuses on language features within texts. In this study, the data consisted of the transcript of Kim Namjoon's 2018 speech at the United Nations. The transcript was retrieved from UNICEF's official website and examined to identify words containing inflectional and derivational morphemes. This process included saving the text, reading through it carefully, and classifying the relevant morphemes for further morphological analysis. Although the transcript was used as the primary data source, it was cross-checked with the video recording of the speech to ensure its accuracy. Minor discrepancies in wording or phrasing were noted, but these did not affect the intended meaning. Therefore, the transcript was considered reliable for linguistic analysis.

The main research instrument used in this study is the morphological classification framework proposed by Plag (2003). As noted by Plag (2003), inflectional morphemes encode grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. Meanwhile, derivational morphemes alter the grammatical category of a word and create a new lexeme (Plag, 2003). Plag's (2003) framework was selected for this study because of its clear and practical classification of inflectional and derivational morphemes. The framework is particularly suitable for analyzing authentic language in public contexts, such as speeches, where accurate identification of grammatical structure is essential. It served as a consistent basis for identifying and classifying morphemes in Kim Namjoon's speech transcript, focusing on their grammatical functions and contributions to word formation.

The analysis of the data in this study was carried out using a qualitative descriptive approach, guided by the morphological framework proposed by Plag (2003). The researcher began by examining the transcript of Kim Namjoon's UN speech to find words that contained morphemes. Each word was broken down to see whether it included inflectional or derivational morphemes. Inflectional morphemes were sorted based on grammatical features such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, while derivational morphemes were grouped by whether they were prefixes or suffixes, and how they changed the

word's class or meaning. The analysis was conducted manually without the use of linguistic software. To support the classification process, standard references such as the Oxford and Cambridge dictionaries were used. After classifying the morphemes, the researcher interpreted their grammatical roles in the context of the speech to understand how they helped shape the message and support the overall structure of the language used.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

In this section, the results from analysing the morphology of Kim Namjoon's UN speech are presented. Both inflectional and derivational morphemes are identified and categorized in the analysis, with a focus on their grammatical roles and usage patterns. The classification follows the morphological framework proposed by Plag (2003), which distinguishes inflectional morphemes as those indicating grammatical features without changing word class, and derivational morphemes as those forming new lexemes or changing grammatical categories.

1. Inflectional Morphemes

guest + -s : guests (plural)

The word *guests* consist of the noun base *guest* and the plural inflectional morpheme *-s*. According to Plag (2003), inflectional morphemes encode grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. In the sentence *"...and distinguished **guests** from across the world"*, the morpheme *-s* indicates that the noun refers to more than one person. This shows how the plural form helps the speaker refer to a broader audience, making the message feel more collective and inclusive.

learn + -ed : learned (past tense)

Plag (2003) states that inflectional morphemes indicate grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. The word *learned* consists of the verb base *learn* and the past tense inflectional morpheme *-ed*. In the

sentence *"We have **learned** to love ourselves…"*, the morpheme *-ed* signals a completed action in the past, functioning grammatically without changing the lexical identity of learn as a verb. It illustrates how the speech uses inflection to place actions within a specific temporal context.

make + -s : makes (person)

The word *make*s consists of the verb base *make* and the inflectional morpheme *-s*, which marks third person singular in the present tense. As stated by Plag (2003), inflectional morphemes indicate grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. In the sentence *"What excites you and **makes** your heart beat?"* the suffix *-s* marks the verb as agreeing with a third person singular subject. This verb form follows the subject-verb agreement rule and shows that the question is about one specific thing.

artist + -s : artists (plural)

Artists consists of the noun base *artist* and the plural inflectional morpheme *-s*. As noted by Plag (2003), inflectional morphemes encode grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. Sentence *"We have become **artists** performing in huge stadiums and selling millions of albums,"* the morpheme *-s* in artists marks the plural form, indicating that the speaker is referring to BTS as a group of individuals, not a single person. This highlights their collective identity as performers.

invite + -ed : invited (past tense)

The word *invited* consists of the verb base *invite* and the past tense inflectional morpheme *-ed*. Plag (2003) explained that inflectional morphemes indicate grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. In the sentence *"It's an incredible honour to be **invited** to an occasion…"*, the morpheme *-ed* signals a completed action in the past, functioning grammatically without changing the lexical identity of invite as a verb. It illustrates how the speech uses inflection to place actions within a specific temporal context.

build + ing : building (aspect)

B*uilding* is formed from the verb base *build* and the inflectional morpheme *-ing*, which marks the progressive aspect. According to Plag (2003), inflectional morphemes indicate grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. In the sentence *"...the "Love Myself" campaign with UNICEF, **building** on our belief…"*, the morpheme *-ing* indicates that the campaign is part of a continuous process or effort. This shows how the progressive form helps the speaker present the campaign as something active and ongoing, rather than finished.

member + -s : members (plural)

Plag (2003) explained that inflectional morphemes indicate grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. The word *members* consists of the noun base *member* and the plural inflectional morpheme *-s*. In the sentence *"...it was only possible because I had my other BTS **members** by my side…",* the morpheme *-s* shows the plural number, indicating that the speaker is referring to multiple individuals within the BTS group. The plural form reflects that their success came from working together as a group, not from one person alone.

partner + ing : partnering (aspect)

The word *partnering* is formed from the noun base *partner* and the inflectional morpheme *-ing*, which marks the progressive aspect. According to Plag (2003), inflectional morphemes indicate grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. In the sentence *"We have been **partnering** with UNICEF's…"*, the morpheme *-ing* indicates that the collaboration with UNICEF is not a one-time action but part of an ongoing effort. This shows that the action was not something done once, but something that was still going on at the time the speech was given.

say + -s : says (person)

Says consists of the verb base *say* and the inflectional morpheme *-s*, which marks third person singular in the present tense. As noted by Plag (2003),

inflectional morphemes indicate grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. Sentence *"...there is a line that says…"* the morpheme -*s* shows that the subject *line* is third person singular. This verb form follows the subject-verb agreement rule and shows that the question is about one specific thing.

excite + -s : excites (person)

As stated by Plag (2003), inflectional morphemes indicate grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, person (including third person), and case, without changing the word class or creating a new lexeme. The word *excites* consists of the verb base *excites* and the inflectional morpheme -*s*, which marks third person singular in the present tense. In the sentence *"What **excites** you and makes your heart beat?"* the morpheme -*s* shows that the subject *what* is third person singular. This verb form follows the subject-verb agreement rule and shows that the question is about one specific thing.

2. Derivational Morphemes

lead (verb) + -er : leader (noun)

The word *leader* is created by adding the derivational suffix -*er* to the verb root *lead*. According to Plag (2003), derivational morphemes can change the grammatical category of a word and form a new lexeme. In this case, the suffix -*er* changes the verb *lead* into a noun that refers to a person who performs the action. The phrase *"...also known as RM, the **leader** of the group BTS"* uses the word *leader* to indicate someone who directs the group, demonstrating how derivational processes create agent nouns to express specific roles.

in- + cred (verb) + -ible : incredible (adjective)

The word *incredible* is formed by adding prefix *in-* and suffix -*ible* to the verb base *cred*. As stated by Plag (2003), derivational morphemes can change the grammatical category of a word and form a new lexeme. In this case, the suffix -*ible* turns the verbal root *cred-* into the adjective *credible*, and the prefix *in-* adds a negative meaning, resulting in *incredible*, an adjective meaning "not believable". In the sentence *"It's an **incredible** honour to be invited…", incredible* refers to something that is amazing and not believable. This demonstrates how derivation,

by adding both a prefix and a suffix, can be used to form adjectives such as *incredible*.

significant (adjective) + -ance : significance (noun)

Significance is formed by attaching the derivational suffix *-ance* to the adjective base *significant*. Plag (2003) states that, derivational morphemes can change the grammatical category of a word and form a new lexeme. In this case, the suffix *-ance* changes the adjective *significant* into a noun that refers to the quality or state of being significant. In the sentence *"...an occasion with such **significance** for today's young generation,"* the word *significance* refers to the importance or meaning of the event. This illustrates how derivation is used to form abstract nouns from adjectives.

beauty (noun) + -ful : beautiful (adjective)

As noted by Plag (2003), derivational morphemes can create a new lexeme and change the grammatical category of a word. One of the examples is the word *beautiful*. *Beautiful* is formed by adding the derivational suffix *-ful* to the noun *beauty*. The suffix *-ful* changes a noun *beauty* into an adjective that refers to something that is very attractive. In the sentence *"It's a **beautiful** place…"*, *beautiful* refers to the very attractive places. This illustrates how derivation is used to form adjectives from abstract nouns.

hope (verb) + -less : hopeless (adjective)

The word *hopeless* is formed by attaching the derivational suffix *-less* to the verb base hope. Plag (2003)) explained, derivational morphemes can change the grammatical category and create a new lexeme. In this case, the suffix *-less* changes the verb *hope* into an adjective that refers to a lack of hope or the absence of expectation. In the sentence *"Most people thought we were **hopeless**,"* the word *hopeless* refers to a lack of hope in people's abilities to succeed. This illustrates how derivation is used to form adjectives from verbs.

luck (noun) + -y : lucky (adjective)

Lucky is formed by adding the derivational suffix *-y* to the noun base *luck*. Plag (2003) states that, derivational morphemes can change the grammatical category of a word and form a new lexeme. The suffix *-y* changes the noun *luck*

into an adjective that refers to having good things happen by chance. In the sentence *"I was very **lucky** that I didn't give it all up,"* the word *lucky* refers to the speaker's good fortune or luck in not giving up. This illustrates how derivation is used to form adjectives from abstract nouns.

re- + mark (verb) + -able : remarkable (adjective)

As noted by Plag (2003), derivational morphemes can create a new lexeme and change the grammatical category of a word. In this case, the adjective *remarkable* is formed by attaching the suffix *-able* to the verb *remark*, which itself is derived from the verb *mark* with the prefix *re-*. The suffix *-able* changes the word class from verb to adjective, giving the meaning "worthy of being remarked upon" or "extraordinary." In the sentence "*We started to hear **remarkable** stories from our fans all over the world*," the use of the word *remarkable* reflects the extraordinary or impactful nature of the stories. This illustrates how derivation is used to form adjectives from nouns.

generate (verb) + -ion : generation (noun)

The word *generation* is formed by adding the suffix *-ion* to the verb base *generate*. According to Plag (2003), derivational morphemes can change the grammatical category of a word and form a new lexeme. In this case, the suffix *-ion* changes the verb generate into a noun that refers to a group of individuals born and living around the same time. In the sentence *"...an occasion with such significance for today's young **generation**,"* the word *generation* refers to the younger population or age group living in the present time. This shows how derivation is used to form abstract or collective nouns from verbs.

constant (adjective) + -ly : constantly (adverb)

The derivational process that forms *constantly* involves adding *-ly* to the adjective base *constant*. Plag (2003) states that, derivational morphemes can change the grammatical category of a word and form a new lexeme. The suffix *-ly* changes the adjective *constant* into an adverb that refers to an action happening repeatedly. In the sentence *"These stories **constantly** remind us of our responsibility"* the word *constantly* refers to the repetition of the stories' reminders. This illustrates how derivation is used to form adverbs from adjectives.

art (noun) + -ist : artist (noun)

As noted by Plag (2003), derivational morphemes can create a new lexeme and change the grammatical category of a word. One example is the word *artist*. The word *artist* is formed by attaching the derivational suffix *-ist* to the noun base *art*. The suffix *-ist* forms an agent noun, which refers to a person who is engaged in a particular activity. In this case, the suffix turns the noun *art* into the noun *artist*, meaning a person who creates art or practices an art form professionally. In the sentence *"I'm a hip-hop idol and an **artist** from a small town in Korea,"* the word *artist* refers to the speaker's identity as someone who creates or performs art, especially music.This shows how derivation is used to form agent nouns from base nouns.

Discussion

The analysis shows that inflectional morphemes such as *-s*, *-ed*, and *-ing* appear consistently throughout the speech and serve to mark grammatical categories such as number, tense, aspect, and person. For instance, the plural marker *-s* in words like *guests*, *members*, and *artists* reflects the grammatical number and contributes to a collective tone. Likewise, the past tense forms *learned* and *invited* help place the speaker's experiences in a temporal sequence, while the progressive marker *-ing* in *building* and *partnering* indicates ongoing action. The third person singular *-s* in verbs like *makes*, *says*, and *excites* shows subject-verb agreement and person marking, contributing to grammatical accuracy.

These findings are consistent with Ifadloh et al. (2022), who found that the plural *-s* was the most frequently used inflectional morpheme in *The Child's Story* by Charles Dickens. However, while their analysis primarily emphasized grammatical presence, this study also shows that these morphemes play a role in shaping sentence clarity and consistency in speech. On the other hand, Febriyanti et al. (2021) found that EFL students frequently made errors in using inflectional morphemes, particularly in verb forms. They reported that 96.2% of the errors involved incorrect tense or subject-verb agreement. This contrasts with Kim Namjoon's speech, which demonstrates a consistent and accurate use of inflectional

forms. The comparison suggests that mastery of inflectional morphology contributes to grammatical clarity in public communication.

In addition to inflection, the speech also features various derivational morphemes such as *-er*, *-able*, *-ance*, *-ion*, *-ist*, *-ly*, and *-ful*. These morphemes function to create new words and change grammatical categories. For instance, *leader* (from *lead*) and *artist* (from *art*) involve the addition of *-er* and *-ist* to form agentive nouns. Adjectives like *remarkable*, *beautiful*, and *hopeless* are formed through suffixes such as *-able*, *-ful*, and *-less*, and help modify nouns descriptively. Other examples such as *significance*, *generation*, and *responsibility* are abstract nouns formed from verbs or adjectives, using *-ance*, *-ion*, and *-ity*, respectively. These derivational morphemes show how the speaker uses morphological processes to build lexical variation and express meaning across word classes.

A study by Alareefi et al. (2021), which examined the use of derivational morphemes by Libyan graduate students, found frequent errors in form, including misformation, addition, omission, and misordering. Their research focused on structural difficulties in academic writing. In contrast, this study shows accurate and consistent use of derivational morphemes in a speech, demonstrating effective control of morphological rules, particularly in the formation of nouns and adjectives.

In contrast, Febriyanti and Zulianti (2024) examined the use of derivational morphology in the short story *"John Rossiter's Wife"*. Their analysis revealed 26 derivational words representing four types of word class changes, including the formation of adjectives from other categories and adverbs from adjectives. The study emphasized both classification and frequency of these derivational forms. This current study, while also identifying the types of derivation, further analyzes how they function grammatically in real speech, particularly in how derivation contributes to expanding word classes and enriching expression within a spoken context.

CONCLUSION

This study aimed to identify the inflectional and derivational morphemes used in Kim Namjoon's speech at the United Nations and to analyze their grammatical functions within the context of the speech. The analysis revealed that both types of morphemes were used consistently and served specific grammatical purposes. A total of 59 morphemes were identified—41 inflectional and 18 derivational—highlighting the morphological richness of the speech and the grammatical roles these elements played in supporting clarity, cohesion, and meaning.

Inflectional morphemes such as *-s*, *-ed*, and *-ing* were used to mark number, tense, aspect, and person. Based on the analysis of 41 inflectional morphemes found in the speech, these elements helped maintain grammatical structure and ensure clarity in the message. For instance, in the sentence "We have learned to love ourselves," the morpheme *-ed* in learned indicates a completed action, while the morpheme *-s* in "distinguished guests" shows plurality. Similarly, the use of *-ing* in "building on our belief" conveys a continuous action. These forms support accurate subject-verb agreement, mark time frames, and express ongoing events, all of which contribute to the grammatical coherence of the speech.

Derivational morphemes, including *-er, -ion, -ist, -able, -ful,* and *-ly*, contributed to word formation by changing grammatical categories or expanding lexical meaning. Based on the analysis of 18 derivational morphemes, these affixes enabled the speaker to express abstract concepts and social identities with clarity and nuance. For example, the suffix *-er* in *"leader"* shifts the verb *lead* into a noun denoting a person who guides, while *-ion* in *"generation"* transforms the verb *generate* into a noun referring to a collective age group. The use of *-able* in *"incredible"* and *-ly* in *"constantly"* enhances descriptive precision. These derivational elements enrich the speech by allowing complex ideas to be conveyed through compact lexical forms, supporting the overall motivational and self-reflective tone of the address.

Overall, this study shows that both inflectional and derivational morphemes play an important part in how language is structured and used. They help maintain grammatical correctness while also allowing the speaker to express ideas in a more

varied and meaningful way. In the context of a speech like this, morphology helps deliver messages that are clear, organized, and effective. These findings underscore the relevance of morphological analysis in exploring how language supports clarity and expressive depth in spoken communication. Future studies could expand this approach by comparing morphological patterns across multiple speeches or analysing how morphological complexity varies with audience type, genre, or rhetorical purpose.

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APPENDIX

Table.1. Inflectional Morphemes in Kim Namjoon's UN Speech

Word	Morphemes	Category
albums	*-s*	Plural
dreams	*-s*	Plural
voices	*-s*	Plural
mistakes	*-s*	Plural
faults	*-s*	Plural
stars	*-s*	Plural
stories	*-s*	Plural
hardships	*-s*	Plural
hills	*-s*	Plural
stadiums	*-s*	Plural
helped	*-ed*	Tense (Past)
launched	*-ed*	Tense (Past)
started	*-ed*	Tense (Past)
stopped	*-ed*	Tense (Past)
wanted	*-ed*	Tense (Past)
used	*-ed*	Tense (Past)
achieved	*-ed*	Tense (Past)
performing	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
saving	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
speaking	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
looking	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
making	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
falling	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
stumbling	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
talking	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
starting	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
loving	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
launching	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
releasing	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
calling	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)
seeing	*-ing*	Aspect (Progressive)

Table.2. Inflectional Morphemes in Kim Namjoon's UN Speech

Word	Morphemes	Category
action	*-ion*	Suffix
enthusiasm	*-iasm*	Suffix
chillhood	*-hood*	Suffix
constellation	*-ation*	Suffix
responsibility	*-ity*	Suffix
conviction	*-ion*	Suffix
identity	*-ity*	Suffix
distinguished	*-ed*	Suffix